

From the Classics

"God the Father made an assemblage of all the waters and He named it the sea (mare). He made an assemblage of all His graces and He called it Mary (Maria)."

From True Devotion to Mary
By Saint Louis de Montfort



Wisdom of the Saints

"To prepare the way means to pray well; it means thinking humbly of oneself."

Saint Augustine



FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
January 9, 2022 ~ Bulletin No. 2 Vol. XXXVIII

CALENDAR ~ January 8-16, 2022

Sat 8	5:00pm	Mass for ROS Dianna Copenhaver by the Krantz Family
Sun 9	9:00am 11:30am 7:30pm	Mass for ROS Rev. Dale Roach by Terry & Sharon Date Mass for the Parish AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information
Mon 10	9:00am 7:00am	Mass for the Terri Obermeier Family by Terri Obermeier Men's Prayer Group
Wed 12	7:00pm	Mass in Celebration 50th Anniversary of the Diocese
Thurs 13	12:10pm 1:00pm 7:00pm	Communion Service Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel Rosary and Benediction, Chapel
Fri 14	12:10pm 7:00am	Communion Service Men's Prayer Group
Sat 15	5:00pm	Mass for the Parish
Sun 16	9:00am 11:30am 7:30pm	Mass for ROS Amy Beheler by Brandon, Lisa & CJ Higgins Mass for Bob Thomas by the Knights of Columbus AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information

COLLECTION CONTRIBUTIONS

Parishioners have the option of making their contributions online through the following link:
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/immaculateconceforestcity>

Contributions from January 2, 2022

Regular Collection: \$8,486.00
Building Repair Loan: \$2,400.00

Please Pick up your Poinsettia!



After Mass this week-end, please pick up your poinsettias. If you purchased a **6-inch Poinsettia, \$10 flower**, they are in the windows. If you purchased an **8-inch Poinsettia, \$20.00 flower**, they are in the sanctuary. Thank You!

The **Ladies Guild** will meet on Monday, January 10th at 10:30am in the Parish Hall. All women of the parish are welcome.

Next Weekend: January 19th is Hospice Sunday. Our item to donate is Ensure, any Flavor.



Next Weekend: There will be a second collection for the Combined Mission Collection

For Annulment Information Contact:
Rachel Harrill 1-828-447-1908 or Email: reharrill@rcdoc.org.

HelpOurMarriage.com
RETROUVAILLE

A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Retrouaille (pronounced retro-vi" with a long l) is a program for troubled marriages. It is based on and explains how to live a Sacramental marriage. While open to couples of all faiths or no faith, **Retrouaille** presents the challenges and beauty of a Catholic marriage.

Some might fear, or be embarrassed to seek help from a pastor, or a friend, but the Holy Spirit often helps a couple respond. If that's the case, consider this.

You can help your marriage. Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? **Retrouaille** helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. For confidential information, or to apply to attend a program beginning with the weekend of February 11-13, 2022, call 434-793-0242 or email: retrouaille@msn.com or visit the website at www.helpourmarriage.org

DIOCESE of CHARLOTTE



50th ANNIVERSARY

FAITH

More Precious Than Gold

1Peter 1:7

Our opening celebration commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Diocese of Charlotte.

Wednesday, January 12th

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 6pm
Mass at 7:00 pm.

Submit information for the bulletin to Penny Watkins, at pjwlmg@gmail.com; Deadline: 12:30pm, Wednesday before the bulletin comes out.

Nine Days for Life

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court legalized abortion throughout the United States in its companion decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. Since that time, millions of children have lost their lives, and millions of women and families have been wounded by abortion. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373, designates **January 22** as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the “**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.**”

The Church directs:

In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.

As individuals, we are called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting and/or almsgiving. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops provides resources to help parishes, schools, families, ministries, and individual Catholics participate in this important day of prayer and penance.

In addition, the USCCB also sponsors an annual, nationwide novena called **9 Days for Life**, which encompasses the liturgical observance of the Day of Prayer. Each day for nine days, a different intention is featured, accompanied by a short reflection, suggested actions, and related information as we pray for the respect and protection of every human life. **Visit respectlife.org/9-days-for-life for more information on the annual campaign. Here is a sample of the novena.**

Day One: January 19, 2021

Intercession: May the tragic practice of abortion end.

Prayers: *Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be*

Reflection: At every stage and in every circumstance, we are held in existence by God’s love. The presence of an illness, disability, or other challenging situation never diminishes the value of a human life. God does not call us to perfection of appearance or abilities, but to perfection in *love*. Christ invites us to embrace our own lives and the lives of others as true *gifts*.

Abortion tragically rejects the truth that every life is a good and perfect gift, deserving protection. This violent practice ends the life of a human being at its very beginning and horribly wounds all those involved. But Christ came that we “might have life and have it more abundantly” (John 10:10), taking on human flesh for the sake of our redemption. May our culture experience the power of God’s transforming love, that all eyes may be opened to the incredible beauty of every human life.

Acts of Reparation (Choose one.)

Take a break from television and movies today. Consider spending some of that time praying with today’s reflection.

Pray the short prayer “Every Life is Worth Living,” reflecting on the gift of human life. (The prayer is also available to order or download at usccb.org/worth-living.)

Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of life. Help us to cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain, and suffering. Give us love for all people, especially the most vulnerable, and help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living. Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need, and teach us to be merciful to all. Through our words and actions, may others encounter the outstretched hands of Your mercy. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Each day of the novena has a different intercession. Here are the others. May each person suffering from participation in abortion find forgiveness, hope, and healing in Christ. May all who defend life find strength and renewal in the Holy Spirit. May all unborn children be protected in law and welcomed in love. May all who support or participate in abortion experience a conversion of heart to seek and receive the Lord’s boundless mercy. May every expectant mother receive compassionate care and support as she nurtures the life in her womb. May expectant fathers lovingly support the mothers of their children in welcoming new life. May expectant mothers choosing adoption receive grace and support in embracing this loving option. May civic leaders work for the protection of all human life, in every stage and circumstance.

Realistically, all of us aren’t able to go to Washington for the March for Life. But **ONE THING WE ALL CAN DO IS PRAY**. For the full novena. Email Penny at pjwlmg@gmail.com or go to the website mentioned above.

